

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows (a copy of the amended claims showing the additions and deletions appears at the end for the Examiner's convenience):

a' 3. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein said object X1 exhibits cells and/or cell membranes originating from a cell or tissue sample of a sick patient, and wherein at least one other object Xn exhibits cells and/or cell membranes originating from a cell or tissue sample of a healthy test person.

4. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein said process comprises the following parallel step:

(x) preparing a protein expression profile each of a sample portion each of said cell or tissue samples from which cells and/or cell membranes will be used in objects X1 and Xn, and comparing the protein expression profile to be associated with object X1 with that to be associated with object Xn, which comparison will show at least one difference.

a² 7. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least one marker molecule used in step (a) and/or step (c) is fluorochrome-conjugated.

8. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least one marker molecule used in step (a) and/or step (c) is an antibody.

a³ 10. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least one marker molecule used in step (a) and/or step (c) is a ligand.

a⁴ 12. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein, after removing the reagent solution according to step (c), a rinsing step follows in which a rinsing solution is deposited on object X1 and removed again after a certain period of time.

13. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein step (d) is performed by means of computer-aided image overlay.

14. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the process comprises randomly repeatable bleaching cycles, in particular after step (b).

Please add the following new claim 15:

15. The process as claimed in claim 3 wherein:

05 said process comprises the following parallel step:

(x) preparing a protein expression profile each of a sample portion each of said cell or tissue samples from which cells and/or cell membranes will be used in objects X1 and Xn, and comparing the protein expression profile to be associated with object X1 with that to be associated with object Xn, which comparison will show at least one difference;

said process comprises the following step, after step (x):

(y) examining at least one protein and/or at least one protein modification causing the difference detected in step (x) as to whether it binds to at least one marker molecule of the reagent solution Y1 or Yn identified in step (g);

at least one marker molecule used in step (a) and/or step (c) binds at least one protein and/or at least one protein modification causing the difference detected in step (x);

at least one marker molecule used in step (a) and/or step (c) is fluorochrome-conjugated;

at least one marker molecule used in step (a) and/or step (c) is an antibody;

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said antibody is taken from an antibody library, said antibody library being of the naive or of the non-naive type;

at least one marker molecule used in step (a) and/or step (c) is a ligand;

said ligand is taken from a ligand library, said ligand library being of the naive or of the non-naive type;

after removing the reagent solution according to step (c), a rinsing step follows in which a rinsing solution is deposited on object X1 and removed again after a certain period of time;

step (d) is performed by means of computer-aided image overlay;

the process comprises randomly repeatable bleaching cycles, in particular after step (b).

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment puts the claims into proper form for examination. Note that claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, and 12-14 have been amended; new claim 15 has been added; and claim 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, and 11 remain unchanged. Kindly calculate the filing fee based on the amended claims.